

I have just learned that the Pappas Telecasting Companies has donated a lot of free air time to Republican candidates, but has refused to do the same for the Democrats. Even if this were not illegal, it so blatantly smacks of abuse and lack of social responsibility that the FCC should immediately take PTC to task. This irresponsible media company is tearing down the democracy that our ancestors worked and fought so hard for. What this company is doing is very anti-democracy. This is not a matter of freedom of speech or anything like that. This is an issue of media companies being allowed to take over the majority of America's mass media outlets and push their own agendas onto the people. If there were many, many owners of broadcast stations like there used to be, it wouldn't be nearly as big an issue or problem. But when one company owns so many of the outlets, then it becomes an entirely different animal. We have a suppression of democracy problem here, and the FCC needs to address it or be identified as being part of the problem. So is the FCC for our democracy or against it? Please tell me because I want to know. And please read the following form letter, because it states the problem very well. Thank you. Ruth Stambaugh

Pappas Telecasting Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas is yet another example of a powerful media group abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves.

Localism is not served when a corporate headquarters decides to provide one side in local elections a louder voice than others. During election season, local audiences should be offered genuine debate -- not disingenuous offers to "purchase" an equal amount of response time.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Pappas' actions are legally questionable and cast doubt on whether Pappas truly intends to serve the public interest. Their actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Further, they show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than just a returned postcard. Thank you.